



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

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Public Health Service  
Agency for Toxic Substances  
and Disease Registry

11464

Memorandum

May 15, 1990

From ATSDR Regional Representative

Subject Consultation: Review of Basket Creek Water and Soils Data  
from Residential Site  
Douglasville, GA

To Shane Hitchcock,  
Waste Management Division

STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

On May 15, 1990, a request was received from Shane Hitchcock, Waste Management Division, EPA Region IV to review current data on well water and soil samples for taken from a residence in Douglasville, GA.

Specifically the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) was asked to determine the public health threat posed by these levels of contamination, and to recommend appropriate actions.

DOCUMENTS REVIEWED

1. Basket Creek Analytical Data, 18 April 1990
2. ATSDR Toxicological Profile on Mercury, Dec. 1989
3. ATSDR Toxicological Profile on TCE, Oct. 1989

DISCUSSION

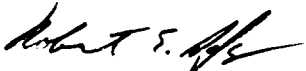
Full scan analyses was conducted on three water and four soil samples from the Basket Creek Site. Analysis was performed on a single sample taken from each of those locations. Analysis from one of the Private Wells (sample PW02) showed low levels of Mercury (1.45 ppb) and trichloroethylene (5 ppb). These levels were obtained from sampling the residential well as opposed to a sample at the tap.

The mercury level of 1.45 ppb is below the MCL of 2.0 ppb set for mercury, and the USFDA MCL for bottled water, also set at 2.0 ppb. Trichloroethylene had a level equal to the MCL of 5 ppb. These levels in themselves do not constitute a serious public health threat. In a letter addressed to Mr. Hitchcock, it stated that the residents were not utilizing the water for drinking purposes, but were relying on bottled water.

#### CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the owners of this well continue to utilize bottled water until additional samples are obtained and analyzed. It is also recommended that additional water samples be taken at both the tap and the well in order to give a more accurate assessment of the potential for exposure.

If additional information becomes available, or you desire further assistance please let me know.

  
Robert E. Safay

cc: file, OAA/RS